

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Notes on Polish Military Aviation

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October 1948

1. Preparation for Jet-Engine Production at PZL Rzeszow

Engineer Lazarek, Chief Director of PZL Rzeszow (Panstwowe Zaklady Lotnicze Rzeszow - State Aircraft Works at Rzeszow), said during his visit to Gdansk Shipyard in the autumn of 1948 that when in Warsaw he had received an order to prepare the Rzeszow Works for the production of jet engines.

December 1948

2. Military Airports

2. Poznan

- 1) One regiment of the Polish Air Force (PAF) is stationed near the airport at Lawice, near Poznan. The command and instructors are so-called "Soviet Poles". The regiment has two training bombers, "Kukuruzniks", and ex-German Ju and Me aircraft.
- 2) Between Przewmierowo (ten kilometers west of Poznan) and Swadzin (XL6), there is a former German airfield which is not in use. The woods surrounding it are mined, and only three roads leading towards the field have been cleared.

b. Radom

An officers' flying school is attached to the military airfield at Gatkow, near Radom (Q19).

C. Boernerow

A new military airport is under construction at Boernerowo, near Warsaw.

d. Malbork

There is a former German airfield between Malbork (Marienburg, D79) and Stare Pole (U58), which was damaged by the Soviets. It is located on the

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right hand side of the railroad track at Elblag (Elbing, Y90), between railroad boxes 12A and 15.

e. Wrzeszcz

The airfield at Wrzeszcz (Langfuhr) has been developed and the runways enlarged and lengthened for heavy and long-range aircraft. In the middle of November 1948, the Russians handed over to the Poles 30 YAKs, which are now manned by Polish crews and are based at Wrzeszcz.

February 1949

3. Organization of General Aviation Courses

- a. The headquarters of the Liga Lotnicza (Aviation League) has organized and launched the first "General Aviation Courses of the League" (Ogolno-lotnicze Kursy LL). The object of these courses is to popularize aviation among workers, peasants, and youth throughout the country, from whom it may also be possible to recruit candidates for both civil and military aviation.
- b. These courses take three weeks, with lectures three times weekly of two hours each. The lectures are drawn from the Air Force Command Officers, the Department of Civil Aviation, and leaders of the PZPR (United Workers' Party) and ZMP (Union of Polish Youth). The latter lecture on political and social subjects.
- c. Applications for the courses are accepted by Regional Aviation League branches in Bialystok, Bydgoszcz, Gdansk, Katowice, Kielce, Krakow, Lublin, Lodz, Olsztyn, Poznan, Rzeszow, Szczecin, Wroclaw, and Warsaw. The fees for the course are 50 to 100 zloty for League members and 100 to 200 zloty for non-members.
- d. The first course was started on 8 February 1949 in the building of the State Mechanical Aviation Lyceum at 88 Hoza Street, Warsaw. The occasion was marked by the attendance of the Chairman of the League, Lt. Col. Kempinski, and a representative of the Air Force Command, Major Penson.

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